

## **Engine House #11**

2773 Gratiot Avenue

Other name: Fire Department Engine House #11

|              |   |         |
|--------------|---|---------|
| Local        | ✓ | 6/13/78 |
| State        | ✓ | 5/14/75 |
| State Marker |   |         |
| National     | ✓ | 1/9/78  |



Engine House No. 11. 1945.

### **Historic overview:**

The Steam Fire Engine Company #11 of the Detroit Fire Department was organized on January 1, 1884. It represents the history of fire fighting in the city and also the valuable service rendered by the Fire Department.

The building at the corner of Gratiot and Grand was designed by the architects Gascione & Sons, and built by the contractors A. Albrecht & Marlow Brothers. The company's original equipment included a Silsby Steam engine and hose reel cart, both horse-drawn. The company converted to motorized operation in October 1916 when a Seagrave gasoline propelled pumping engine replaced the horse drawn equipment. The tower on the southeast side of the building was reduced in height during World War II to allow for the installation of an air raid siren.

Of particular note in the history of Engine Company #11 is the continuous service of the De Caussin family, four generations of which served the company from 1886 until 1972 when the company moved to new quarters. After the departure of Engine Company #11, the building was used for four years by and Emergency Medical Unit. The building is now a museum for the Detroit Fire Department and houses several pieces of historic fire fighting equipment. Engine House #11 is the oldest remaining firehouse in the city of Detroit.

